



April 17, 2013

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **Ex parte filing** in WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 15, Steve Merriam from Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) and the undersigned from GVNW Consulting, Inc. (GVNW) conducted an ex parte meeting with Nicholas Degani from Commissioner Pai's office.

This ex parte meeting consisted of a discussion of the lack of reasonable comparability between satellite and fiber connectivity for communities in the North Slope Borough. We also discussed that the Arctic Slope service area is larger than the state of Minnesota, creating extreme construction and maintenance challenges in the harsh Arctic environment. The weather is a factor in measuring reasonable comparability, as the bar of what is "reasonably comparable" must be met on a daily basis. This lack of reasonable comparability also impacts the ability to provide First Net access and functionality on the North Slope.

As required by the Commission's rules, this ex parte record is now filed in the above referenced docket. If there are any questions, please call me on 503.612.4409.

Respectfully submitted,

Via ECFS 4/18/13

Jeffrey H. Smith
Vice-President and Division Manager, Western Region
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Copy to
Nicholas Degani, FCC
Steve Merriam, Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative